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Prices low Shop at Mueller's old stand.

A GREAT MINING FUROR.

During the present year, as the railway lines push southwardly through New Mexico a large immigration will unquestionably find its way into the mining districts. Already new camps are being opened, or old ones reopened. Twenty-two miles distant from Santa Fe are the Cerillos mines, directly on the main branch of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Line. Twelve miles farther on are the old Placers, and seven miles south the new Placers. Within a brief period, Senator Jones, of Nevada, and other Pacific Coast capitalists have visited the Placers, in company with experts, and the result of their investigations is that they have formed a company for the working of these grounds. Speedy operations are to be commenced, and already contracts are let for the laying of thirty miles of iron piping, so that water for hydraulic washings may be introduced ere the advent of early summer. Estimates have been made that over \$100,000,000 worth of placer gold can be dislodged within a few years in these diggings, which have so often and so profitably been worked many years ago, but subsequently abandoned, as the gravel had to be hauled many miles to streams of water by the primitive Mexicans ere the precious metal could be separated from the dirt. Ye, even with all this trouble and expense, the early natives made this species of mining profitable. With improved methods, superior appliances and extensive capital, a new era in placer mining will arise, which gives promise, so far as richness of yield is concerned, of eclipsing California in her palmiest days.

Between the Placers and the Cerillos lie great bodies of anthracite coal, which some geologists and mineralogists affirm is equal in quality to the best of the Pennsylvania regions. While it is of a lower specific gravity, they maintain that it will give forth as much heat and make less ashes. Copper, iron and lead abound in close proximity, and in such quantities as to be profitably worked. Already one smelter has been erected, and another will soon be under way.

A GREAT deal of unnecessary excitement has been caused by the introduction in the Assembly of the New York Legislature of a bill to provide for the choice of Presidential electors by Congressional districts, instead of by the State at large as has been the custom for nearly half a century. The scheme in itself is a good one, since it would produce an Electoral College more nearly representing the views of the people than the present system. Now a majority, or even a plurality of one vote in any State may decide the political complexion of all its Presidential electors; under the district plan the minority party would give a representation in the Electoral College in proportion to its strength in the Congressional districts. But there is no likelihood that the bill will become a law in New York, notwithstanding the fact that the Republicans have the power to pass it, and would gain by so doing. They are willing to take their chances before the people of the State on the old plan with Gen. Grant for their leader, next fall. They have no desire to take snap judgment; the bill will be allowed to slumber unless the conspiracy of the Democrats to count in their candidate, according to the Garcelon plan, makes the enactment of such a law seem a great necessity. The introduction of the bill was simply an answer to the game of bluff now being played by the Democratic leaders in Congress.—Globe-Democrat.

An excursion of wholesale merchants from the Missouri river towns to Santa Fe and Albuquerque, is looked for in February.

FARMING AND SHEEP.

LARNED, KAN., Jan. 19, 1880.
To the Editor of the Times.

I acknowledge the receipt of a copy of your interesting little sheet, for which I am much obliged. Kansas seems to be well provided with intelligent editors, if nothing else. But Southwest Kansas is yet in her infancy, and the majority of her settlers are unskilled in agriculture, many of them had never plowed a furrow or raised a hill of corn before coming here. The soil and climate is very different from that of any of the Eastern States, and must be learned. The earth, like all new countries, is filled with all manner of insects and vermin; we must learn the seasons and the requirements of the soil before we can expect to succeed in agriculture. The past season was extremely dry; but I noticed that land plowed deep and well pulverized, rotted and packed when the soil was sufficiently moist, and the seed put in in good season all came up quick and looks fine. Corn on old land, that was properly tilled, would have made a good crop if the worms had not taken it. I contend that because the general crop was a failure last season, that it will do so another; many have raised abundant crops in years gone by and will do so again.

Our climate is naturally dry and we must prepare for dry weather; be ready to strike when the iron is hot; plow when the ground is moist, and harrow or cultivate and roll immediately. What farmer in the East has not a good two-horse cultivator, double harrow and roller? What farmer in all the Southwest has either; and our soil and climate requires them more than any in the Eastern States. In Michigan or Ohio or any of the Eastern or Western States who would expect their seed back if they put in a crop as poorly as most of the farmers do here. I say plow deep and well. Cultivate thoroughly and roll down your ground; do the work when the soil is moist, and do only what you can do well, and see if you do not get a crop. And then what will we do with it, we cannot get much for what we have to ship, after paying freight; and wheat is all that will pay to ship in the produce line. I say buy sheep and feed it out and ship the wool and mutton. If you can't buy many sheep feed the better what you do buy; they will pay for every pound of grain, hay or straw that they consume. The manure pays well, either to enrich the soil or burn in place of coal. They pay three payments: lambs, wool and manure. W. J. COLVIN.

THERE is considerable stir in army circles regarding the probability of a campaign on the border during the coming summer.

General Pope accompanied by General Bingham and Major Dunn, returned to Fort Leavenworth Saturday evening from Fort Garland where General Pope has been inspecting General Mackenzie's column of troops who are now in splendid condition for the field.

The summer campaign which is being planned against the Utes will be participated in by all the available troops in the department. The first movement will be made about the first of July. General Sheridan was over the ground not long ago and found that it was almost impossible to move troops through the mountains at a date earlier than the middle of June.—Leavenworth Times.

It is held that England will eventually become one of the best customers for our mutton sheep. To accomplish this, however, our stock of mutton sheep must not only be increased, but especial care must be taken in breeding, and especial pains used in fattening. Is beef cattle, what consumers want nowadays is superior flesh, not masses of tallow.

OLD ALMANACS.

We have perused three almanacs, bearing dates respectively 1786, 1797, and 1799. They are the property of W. H. Harris, of this city, having been sent to him from the east. We select a few paragraphs from this ancient almanac literature, with the purpose of amusing some of our readers. Here is a sample of poetical effusion:

Come Almanacs buy, they never fail lie,
But always predict, in their reckoning as strict,
As maidens who tell, in nine months they'll be well.
Here's cold frost and hail, will in winter prevail
For summer there's thunder, if it lightens no wonder.
Now and then a lightile, and snow banks beside
With everything clever, all stitched together.

We are told to shear sheep when the moon is increasing, soon after the change, unless those that lose wool much, and then it is best decreasing.

The address of Gen. George Washington declining a third term, appears in the almanac of 1797. It would probably be interesting reading nowadays. Washington's principal reason for refusing a third term was his desire for retirement, and the enjoyment thereof.

They had some good jokes in the days of our forefathers:

A lady being at cards one evening, when her ruffles caught fire from a candle: a gentleman intending to be witty on the accident, said "he did not think her so apt to take fire." "Nor am I, from such a spark as you."

We are told: At this quarter of the moon cut fire wood to prevent its snapping.

Sit not too near the fire; lest you burn your shoes.

Sow all such seeds as root downward, as carrots, parsnips, beets, etc., before the new moon.

Here is a useful hint concerning the prevention of fire that might be adopted with profit in this advanced age:

"There is a method used in some countries of glazing chimneys when they are built, by burning common salt in them, which renders them so smooth that no soot can adhere to them. Chimneys so constructed can never take fire."

THERE is considerable comment among the officers in the department regarding the action of the civil officers of the government regarding the Ute prisoners.

There seems to be a feeling existing that the entire case has been either misrepresented to the head of the civil government or many important facts withheld. The present aspect of the case is that the Indians are not much, if any, to blame in murdering agent Meeker, and that they will be cleared of the charge. During the whole investigation nothing is said of the murder of Major Thornburg, and his men except that he should not have made the "mistake" he did, in facing a hostile foe when he could have saved himself by keeping on his way or turning aside to avoid a fight.—Leavenworth Times.

THE earnings of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad for the year 1879, were \$658 per mile of road. This road shows the largest increase of business of any road within the past year. In 1876 the earnings were \$318 per mile. It must be remembered that this road traverses through a large extent of country that gives it but little local traffic.

OURAY, the Ute is short and stout. He has a square face and wears a high hat. He has somewhat of a beard. He speaks Spanish well. Gen. Adams says that Ouray is a man of intelligence, but that when he was told that the Utes had acted badly, he smiled, shrugged his shoulders, and merely said that it is only a way the Indians have.